

9/6/69

Mr. William Lucas
Dufours, Marx, Levy and Lucas
National Bank of Commerce Bldg.,
New Orleans, La.

Dear Bill,

I write you again about what I have written and spoken to you about several times since March and about what Steve Bair has written you about, the matter of allocation of costs and charges in the Bringuier matter. I do this not because it is pleasant but because it is urgent.

My financial situation is very bad, worse than it has been. This work, which I regard as essential, is without financial return. I do it not for profit but because I think it serves everyone's need.

In my discussions with him, Bair has spoken reasonably. Dell has taken what you were paid from what it owed me. He agrees what was done to me is not fair and says he will return, from him and Saga, what was not fairly assessed against me. At the outset, this seems to have been his intention, for he asked such an allocation of you when he informed you Dell would make the payments to you.

From what you told me, I recognize the position this puts you in. However, if you tell Bair what you know, you have no problem. You know that everything you did is contrary to what I wanted. The entire legal approach was opposite what I wanted. I think, from this knowledge, it is but fair to so tell Bair. You know also that because I was then also under the impression that Dell was bearing ~~the~~ your fees and costs, I agreed to what you proposed doing and, in every way I could, assisted it. When you asked of me other than what I wanted to do, you know I did what you asked of me.

Further, you know I conducted a large and successful investigation, in the event your legal moves failed. I kept you informed of it. And you know I had to have had fairly considerable expenses doing this and that it took time. What you also know is that a judgement against me in Louisiana is entirely meaningless.

I hope it is not asking too much of you that you tell Bair these things. The money you got was mine. You spent it for Dell and Saga, as you thought best served their interest. Perhaps it is your opinion that it best served my interest, but you know it is against my expressed opinion, my desire. It is my belief that the considerable time and money I invested in helping and backstopping, yielding what I am confident you, Dell and Saga could not have gathered for any cost, had it been needed, is more than my fair share of any defense. It is enough to convict Bringuier of perjury. I believe if you will inform Bair forthrightly he is disposed to be fair and reasonable about this. My need really is urgent. Please do it, Bill.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg